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Handwritten: A. Maldonado
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PATENT
Customer No. 22,852
Attorney Docket No. 08038.0032

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:)

Takayuki NIUYA et al.)

Serial No.: 09/658,193)

Filed: September 8, 2000)

For: METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR)
PRODUCING SEMICONDUCTOR)
DEVICE)

) Group Art Unit: 2823

) Examiner: J. Maldonado

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Commissioner for Patents and Trademarks
Washington, DC 20231

Sir:

RESPONSE TO RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT

In a restriction requirement dated January 28, 2002, the Examiner required restriction under 35 U.S.C. § 121 between Group I, claims 11-16 and 20-21, drawn to a method of manufacturing semiconductor devices and Group II, claims 17-19, drawn to an apparatus for manufacturing semiconductor devices. Applicants provisionally elect to prosecute Group I, claims 11-16 and 20-21, drawn to a method of manufacturing semiconductor devices, without traverse.

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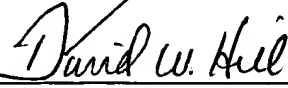
Please grant any extensions of time required to enter this response and charge any additional required fees to our deposit account 06-0916.

Respectfully submitted,

FINNEGAN, HENDERSON, FARABOW,
GARRETT & DUNNER, L.L.P.

Dated: April 24, 2002

By:



David W. Hill
Reg. No. 28,220

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